

Message Text

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43

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 NEA-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 A-01 OPR-02 SY-10

DRC-01 /178 W

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R 021350Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY KAMPALA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3294
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMCONSUL STUTTGART
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT PFOR UG KE XF

SUBJECT: UGANDA ROUND-UP: NOVEMBER 2

1. GENERAL AMIN WILL VISIT MOMBASA NOVEMBER 3 AT INVITATION KENYATTA. HE ANNOUNCED THIS IN COURSE MARATHON LECTURE TO MINISTERS, DIPLOMATS, PROVINCIAL OFFICIALS AT INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE CENTER NOVEMBER 1. AMIN SAID KENYATTA HAD TELEPHONED HIM TO INFORM HIM THAT KENYA WAS BREAKING RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL. VOICE OF UGANDA NOV. 2 REPORTS THAT THE TWO LEADERS WILL DISCUSS EAC MATTERS, OAU, MIDDLE EAST SITUATION AND BILATERAL MATTERS.

2. GENERAL'S EXTEMPORANEOUS, HOUR AND A HALF LECTURE OCVERED BROAD RANGE TO TOPICS, INCLUDING AN EXPLANATION OF ARAB-ISRAEL

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WARS GOING BACK TO 1948 (WHICH HAD ABOUT AS MANY HISTORICAL

ERRORS AS IT DID FACTS) PLUS A GEOGRAPHY LESSON ON THE IMPORTANCE OF THE SUEZ CANAL ("GOING THROUGH THE CANAL YOU CAN GET FROM MOMBASA TO LONDON IN ONE WEEK BUT GOING AROUND SOUTH AFRICA IT TAKES THREE MONTHS") COMPLETE WITH MAPS AS VISUAL AIDS. GENERAL'S "BRIEFING" ON MIDDLE EAST

SITUATION INCLUDED NOW STANDARD CRITICISMS OF US SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL, BUT NOTHING NEW NOR PARTICULARLY VIOLENT. HE WARNED AGAINST TRIBALISM, RECOMMENDED PERSONAL HYGIENE AND EXERCISE, DEFENDED GYMNASTICS PROGRAM, EXPLAINED AWAY GOVERNMENT'S FAILURE TO CARRY OUT GRANDIOSE PROJECTS HE HAS ANNOUNCED IN PAST (THEY TAKE TIME), BLAMED SUGAR SHORTAGE ON AGE OF MACHINERY IN MADHVANI AND MEHTA REFINERIES, MADE FOOLISH REMARKS ABOUT WHY PRICES OF ESSENTIALS HAVE SKY-ROCKETED, CLAIMED THAT MOST OF THE EXPelled ASIANS' ASSETS WERE IN FACT "TAX PAYERS' MONEY IN FORM OF OVERDRAFTS", SAID UGANDA SHOULD BE EXPORTING RICE RATHER THAN IMPORTING IT SINCE COUNTRY HAS PLENTY OF FERTILE LAND AND SWAMPS FOR GROWING RICE. AUDIENCE CHEERED TWICE, WHEN AMIN SAID HE HAD VISITED 13 COUNTRIES DURING OCTOBER AND WHEN HE PROMISED MORE CITY COUNCIL HOUSING. THEY GIGGLED WHEN HE EXPLAINED HOW ISRAEL HAD EXPANDED ITS TERRITORY AT EXPENSE OF ARABS (HAVE NO IDEA WHY THEY THOUGHT THIS WAS FUNNY).

3. AT RECEPTION AFTERWARDS I SHOOK GENERAL'S HAND WHEN HE ARRIVED, BUT THEREAFTER AVOIDED HIM.
KEELEY

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